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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US (22) International Filing Date: 23 December 1998 ((30) Priority Data: 08/998,877 24 December 1997 (24.12.9)	23.12.9	8) BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, Li, N, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, LU, patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, S) patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, M	DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO D, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian ID, RU, TJ, TM), European
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 (72) Inventors: TANABE, Masato; 972 Moreno, Palo J 94303 (US), PETERS, Richard, H.; 365 Springpar San Jose, CA 95136 (US), CHAO, Wan-Ru; IS: Avenue, Sumpyale, CA 94087 (US), JONG, L Endicott Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94087 (US). (74) Agents: REED, Dianne, E. et al.; Reed & Associat Alpine Road, Portola Valley, CA 94028 (US). 	rk Circl 10 Orio ing; 68	e. Published With international search report. (88) Date of publication of the internation	nal search report: . December 1999 (23.12.99)
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(54) Title: NOVEL ANTI-ESTROGENIC STEROIDS, A OF USE	ND AS	SOCIATED PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOS	ITTONS AND METHODS
(57) Abstract			•
Novel anti-estrogenic compounds are provided whit disorders. Preferred compounds have 1,3,5-estraticen nucle which renders the compounds effective to competitively ble 17-desoxy-1,3,5-estratienes. Therapeutic methods and pharm	cus, and	I are substituted at the C-17 or C-11 position binding of estrogen to its receptor. Particularly	with a molecular moiety

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national Application No. PCT/US 98/27406

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6 C07J41/00 A61K31/57 C07J43/00 A61K31/58

A61K31/56 A61K31/575

According to International Petent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC~6~C07J~A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

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	er documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	X Patent family members are issted	in annex.
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	clual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international sea 2 4. 08. 99	
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arnational application No.

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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet) This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons: 1. X Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely: Remark: Although claim(s) 23-39 is(are) directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition. 2. X Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international Search can be carried out, specifically: See further information sheet Claims Nos because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a). Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet) This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows: see further information sheet 1. X As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.: No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. Remark on Protest No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 1-7

Claims 1-7 attempt to define the subject matter of the claimed invention in terms of a result to be achieved, claims 1-3 in particular give no structural features of the claimed compounds AT ALL, but rather define them in terms of their anti-estrogenic effects and low estrogenic activity. Claims 4-7 further specify two very trivial structural features, namely the estra-1,3,5(10)-triene structure and the 17-desoxy derivative thereof. These per se are well known structural features and give no distinction of the claimed subject matter over the state of the art, consequently the (allegedly) distinguishing feature of each of these claims is their function as anti-estrogens with low estrogenic activity as measured by a well known technique. This is also the problem to be solved by the claimed compounds (see page 5, lines 10-13 of the description). Consequently the subject matter of claims 1-7 is entirely characterised by a desideratum, i.e. the distinguishing feature of these claims over the prior art is simply to state that they must be of such a structure that they solve the stated problem. This is a wholly unacceptable formulation from the point of view of the clarity of the claims according to Article 6 PCT, since the skilled person is given no hint whatsoever in these claims as to the technical means needed to solve the stated problem and also, for the same reason, from the standpoint of sufficiency of disclosure of these claims (Article 5 PCT), since the skilled person is at a loss as to which compounds to synthesise with any expectation of solving the problem. Consequently these claims are so unclear under Article 6 PCT and insufficiently disclosed (Article 5 PCT), that it is not possible to carry out a meaningfull search thereon according to Article 17(2)(a)(ii) and (2)(b) PCT. Consequently these claims are not mentioned anywhere in the search report or in the non-unity motivation.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 8-10.14.23-36.41 (in part) 15.16 (in full)

Estra-1,3,5(10)-triene compounds with a cyclic substituent bound, optionally via a linker group, to position 17 of the steroid skeleton via a doubly bonded carbon or nitrogen atom. medical uses and pharmaceutical compositions thereof.

2. Claims: 8.14.23-36.41 (in part)

Estra-1,3,5(10)-triene compounds with a linear hydrocarbon substituent interrupted by at least one -O-, -S- or -NR-moiety and bound, optionally via a linker group, to position 17 of the steroid skeleton via a doubly bonded carbon or nitrogen atom, medical uses and pharmaceutical compositions thereof.

3. Claims: 8-10,23-36,41 (in part) 17-19 (in full)

Estra-1,3,5(10)-triene compounds substituted in position 11 by a doubly bound carbon or nitrogen atom, medical uses and pharmaceutical compositions thereof.

4. Claims: 11,20,23-36,41 (in part) 12,13,21,22 (in full)

17-Desoxy-estra-1,3,5(10)-triene compounds with a cyclic substituent bound, optionally via a linker group, to position 17 of the steroid skeleton via a singly bonded carbon atom, medical uses and pharmaceutical compositions thereof.

5. Claims: 11.20.23-36.41 (in part)

17-Desoxy-estra-1,3,5(10)-triene compounds with a linear hydrocarbon substituent, interrupted by at least one -0-, -5-, or -NR- moiety, bound to position 17 of the steroid skeleton via a singly bonded carbon atom, medical uses and pharmaceutical compositions thereof.

6. Claims: 37.38 (in full)

The treatment of estrogen dependent disorders using pregna-1,3,5(10)-trien-3-ol-20-one or the hydrazone thereof

7. Claim: 39 (in full)

A method for transdermal delivery of estra-1.3.5(10)-triene

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8 Claim	: 40 (in full)		· ·	
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